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# Mrs. Oswald Says Letter Hints Son Was an Agent

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Washington, Feb. 13—*"Mother, I must go to Russia and I must do it now. I hope you'll try to understand."*

That was the phrase Lee Oswald wrote in a letter to his mother that makes her believe her son did not defect to the Soviet Union but went as a secret government agent.

Mrs. Oswald, in an interview with The New York Post, acknowledged that her son never gave her a more substantial explanation of his trip to Russia.

"But if you're an agent for the CIA, you don't tell anyone, do you?" she said. She referred to the trip to Russia as 'his so-called defection.'

Mrs. Oswald, sightseeing in Washington today after three days of testimony before the Warren Commission, vows she will continue her campaign to prove her son's innocence until the real killer of President Kennedy is found.

She insists her son was the scapegoat for some conspiracy, the nature of which she said she did not know. The real assassin, she said, is still at large.

Chief Justice Warren, chairman of the commission investigating the assassination, told reporters that Mrs. Oswald had "not given us any facts that could change the picture as we know it up to the time she

testified."

Warren said Mrs. Oswald realized that her contention of her son's innocence, as well as his employment for the CIA, was the result of "speculation" based on his letters and various other facts.

He said that the commission had no evidence that he was the agent of any government bureau, including the C. I. A.

Warren said he did not know whether commission witnesses would include a janitor who reportedly saw Oswald en route to a sniper's hideaway shortly before the deadly rifle shots were fired last Nov. 22.

At a press conference yesterday, Mrs. Oswald frequently referred to her son, who was killed two days after the assassination, in the present tense, as if he were still alive.

"I as his mother believe Lee is innocent," she said.

Although she asserted that "we have pertinent evidence" of this innocence, she declined to say what that evidence was, ex-

cept to note that it would have been difficult to establish guilt beyond doubt in the period prior to the announcement by the Dallas police that the case was closed. She added that there were "other discrepancies" that cast doubt on his guilt.

Mrs. Oswald said she would continue to work with Mark Lane, New York attorney, who has taken up Oswald's defense, and make appearances in the cause of her late son.

The investigation she will conduct with Lane, Mrs. Oswald said, will be independent of the commission's. She said she hoped the investigation "would help the commission."

At one point, Mrs. Oswald said: "Not only as a mother but I realize that as a human being Lee could be guilty." But later she affirmed his innocence not only of the President's assassination but also of the killing of officer J. D. Tippit of the Dallas police force, to which there were reported eyewitnesses.

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